



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

Explosive Ordnance Disposal

Newsletter



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NEWS FROM THE MCD NAVEODTECHDIV

The Marine Corps Detachment personnel would like to first and foremost, offer condolences to the families of our fallen comrades. The loss of these very brave EOD technicians will not be forgotten.

We would also like to send our congratulations to all of the fields recent promotion selects to include the Captain, CWO's, MGySgt's, and MSgt's. Well done.

Congratulations to the newly promoted Warrant Officers Buckles, Crye, Cusinato, Garza, Gilchrist, Moore, Pilcher, Soto, Soukup, and Yannizzi.

Over the last year, there have been significant changes in personnel throughout the field and our detachment at the Tech Div was not omitted from the changes. Gone are MGySgt Carabello (Retired), GySgt Ellis (Transfer 1st Civ Div), SSgt Lindsey (2nd EOD Company). Recent arrivals to assist LtCol Allston and MSgt Gouley are MGySgt Carroll (NCOIC), GySgt Feegle (Pubs), and SSgt Langerud (Pubs/Tools).

The EOD Action Officer at HQMC has changed as well. Major JP Miller succeeded LtCol Jay Lietzow, who retired in October 2005. Soon, MGySgt Couch will be joining Major Miller at HQMC to assist with matters pertaining to enlisted personnel. MGySgt Couch will become the first ever EOD Technician to be assigned to HQMC in that capacity.

Additionally, GySgt Luther will assume the duties and billet as the EOD enlisted monitor at MMEA on 15 February. Like, MGySgt Couch, GySgt Luther will be the first ever EOD technician to hold such a billet.

There have been some long overdue changes made to the EOD Website. Information gathered and disseminated on the website is based on the latest information available to the detachment. This includes information gathered from the operating forces. If there are corrections or inconsistencies with a portion or portions of the website, please notify this detachment with the correct information.

We also strongly encourage news, articles, and pictures from the field. If you have information you want posted to the website, please forward that information via electronic mail as an attachment and we will do our best to get it posted.

Some news for the field that has not been posted to the website but is still relevant follows:



Duke Pro Universal Shock-tube Initiator (USTI-1):

Marine Corps Systems Command is currently fielding the USTI-1 shock-tube initiator. The USTI-1 is a reusable shock-tube initiator that converts an electrical impulse from a Remote Firing Device or CD450-J blasting machine to a carbon tipped spark gap initiator. The resulting spark functions your shock-tube.

The USTI-1 received approval for EOD Use Only by the Weapon System Explosives Safety Review Board (WSESRB).

We are expecting to receive more information soon from MCSC on which units were sent the USTI-1's.





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KESP/ 100 Key Equipment Schedule Pack:

Marine Corps Systems Command recently purchased the KESP/100 Key Equipment Schedule Pack (Hook and Line Kits) from the "Allen Vanguard" Corporation.

Each KESP/100 HAL kit is comprised of:

- One (1) HAL BombTec Rigging Kit (HAL BT 1/00)
- One (1) HAL Vehicle Access Kit (HAL VAK 1/00)
- One (1) HAL Lightweight Tripod (HAL TRI 2/00)

Pictures are available online at:

<http://www.allen-vanguard.com/Catalogue/HL/329/909485.html>

In addition to the KESP/100 units will receive the Special Operations HAL Kit starting in the third quarter of FY-05.

Pictures are available online at:

<http://www.allen-vanguard.com/Catalogue/SO/606/909437.html>



MK 32 Mod 4 Xray (Golden):

Tech Div has been informed and information has been verified as official that film cassettes for the Mk 32 will not be produced beyond June 2006. Golden has placed an order to purchase 1200 units based on this information. Golden estimates the 1200 cassettes will be enough to re-supply all users for one calendar year. Highly suggest all teams use unit funds to purchase at least one additional film cassette. Also, Polaroid has indicated, though not officially, that production of film will end in FY07. Although film has only a one-year shelf life, strongly encourage units to purchase film as well.

SDIED (PAN) Ammunition:

All ammunition used in the SDIED as well as shock tube initiator (DODIC: DWEI) is available for OPERATIONAL use and this info is indicated in current edition of MCBul 8011. However, there is no ammunition available for training purposes. On 20 March 2006, personnel representing Marine Corps EOD, Training and Education Command (TECOM), Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC) EOD and Ammunition will convene a conference in Quantico to revise the Training & Readiness (T&R) Manual for EOD. This manual is the justification for training allowances, both DODIC and quantities. Once the manual is published by TECOM, MCSC will use that manual to purchase our annual training allowance of Class V materials.

For information regarding the conference, refer to official message traffic:

CG TECOM R 231528Z Dec 05 (unclass)

Subj: Training and Readiness Manual Development Conference.

MK171 MOD 0 Lightweight Disposable Disruptor (LIDD):

NSN: 1375-01-477-6811

DODIC: DWDN

To date, several thousand have made it through inspection and testing at Crane and have been accepted. There is currently no plan to force feed the items down to the service ASP's until the services identify their requirements. Again, the T&R Conference in Quantico will address this for the Marine Corps.





MK 42 Medium Directional Energetic Tool (MDET):

The MDET has been funded for by MCSC for FY06 and teams should begin taking receipt of the tool by mid summer. The powder bags used to function the tool will not be available until the summer either. The powder bags are issued per box with eight (8) bags in each box.

NSN: 1385-01-533-4908

DODIC: DWGB

NSN and DODIC are for the powder bags only.

Requesting Training Ammunition

For training purposes related to the SDIED, MK171, MK42, units should request a special allowance through regular channels In Accordance With MCBul 8011 until the T&R Manual and MCBul 8011 are updated and implemented. NSN and DODIC for SDIED ammunition is posted on website and is also available on MCBul 8011.

Full Spectrum Battle Equipment (FSBE):

We received word that Marine EOD technicians who are assigned to the Direct Action Platoons are not being provided with the correct FSBE gear to support the MSPF mission. The Commandants Guidance for the issue of FSBE to Marine EOD in support of MSPF operations is clearly delineated in the FSBE ULSS. Force Reconnaissance units were provided with this gear for issue to EOD technicians supporting the DAP. A copy of the FSBE ULSS can be found on the EOD website.



Manual Transport Robot System Program:

The MTRS Program is currently in the Production Phase with robots being shipped to theatre as we pen this entry. The EOD MTRS Program consists of two types of robotic platforms; the PackBot

manufactured by "IRobot" and the Talon made by "Foster-Miller". The full fielding plan will provide each EOD team with (Two) MTRS EOD variant robots, each with a Consumable Parts Kit. It is extremely important to note that the spare parts for MTRS EOD Robots are not interchangeable with Pre-MTRS robots. Although the robots may appear alike (Talon looks like a Talon) and (PackBot-looks like any other PackBot), there are mechanical, electrical, and software differences that could cause a malfunction or safety-mishap. Swapping parts between Non-MTRS robots could pose a severe safety consequence and units would void the manufacturers warranty for repair. That means you get to pay for the repairs out of your units O & M funds.

The official fielding plan developed by Marine Corps Systems Command covering the MTRS program has not been published yet. Once the information becomes available we will post it on the EOD website. In the interim, the following NSN's are assigned to the Mk 1 Mod 0 (PackBot) and Mk 2 Mod 0 (Talon) Robots and Consumable Parts Kit:

Mk 1 Mod 0 Robot, Explosive Ordnance Disposal:
1385-01-534-9828

Mk 1 Mod 0 Robot, Explosive Ordnance Disposal
Consumable Kit: 1385-01-534-9816

Mk 2 Mod 0 Robot, Explosive Ordnance Disposal:
1385-01-534-9826

Mk 2 Mod 0 Robot, Explosive Ordnance Disposal
Consumable Kit: 1385-01-534-9821

If you need any assistance with your MTRS Robots contact this detachment. The MCD Robotics main POC is MGySgt Carroll or MSgt Gouley.

Every team needs to notify this detachment upon receipt of MTRS Packbot or Talon as well as establish user accounts with the JSEOD Robotics Website to monitor and input data related to maintenance of the vehicles.

That website is: <https://www.muwinfodesk.navy.mil>



When prompted to choose the website to be accessed, users should select Joint Service EOD Robotic Systems option. Further information regarding MTRS is available on the USMC EOD website through the MTRS hyperlink.



The Technical Support Center (TSC):

The TSC has been in full operation for over a year now. The TSC was established to provide technical answers to EOD operators, DoD personnel, and federal agencies. To use the TSC, go to their website and fill out a request for information (RFI) sheet. The TSC then researches your questions through experts within the Technology Division SME's or other national laboratories. The Command and Service Detachments track the request. NAVSEA is expanding the TSC to include a 24-hour capability and this center will become your primary POC for IED/UXO information. To find out more about the TSC – check out their NIPR website (this must be accessed via a .mil location) at:

<http://www.naveodtechdiv.navsea.navy.mil/12/OperationsDepartment/jeodtsc.asp>

Joint Digital Information Gathering System (JDIGS):

Many people do not know what JDIGS is. Hopefully, this section will give a clear definition of JDIGS and how it is going to help the field. The purpose of JDIGS is to provide a centralized mechanism to electronically collect operational field data in near real time, enabling analysis of EOD incident data. Some of the benefits of JDIGS are as follows:

- A Web-based incident reporting tool.
- An offline method to allow EOD teams to create reports in the field and later submit when “connected” to the SIPR.

- A searchable database for incident data for better situational awareness and more efficient support to EOD operations and countermeasure developers.
- Document EOD operations.
- Identify enemy IED threat trends.
- Validate procedures.
- Identify areas for improvement in training.
- Evaluate TTP used by EOD community.
- Assist in the identification of future manpower and material requirements.
- Share data between agencies with common interests.

Currently, the four service detachments are in the process of ensuring that the flow of information can get to the technicians in the fleet in a timely manner. Future editions will grant commands and outside agencies access to JDIGS on a tiered level access.

Gaining access is simple. You can request a password and log onto the system through the TSC website on the SIPR at <https://www.tsc.jeodnet.smil.mil>. Go to the “Products/Downloads” section and enter “JDIGS Workflow”. Once there, you will be required to enter your personal information and your request will then be sent to the TSC who in turn forwards the request to the respective service detachments for verification. Once the user is verified, an email will be sent back to the requestor with login and password information. Once access is granted, technicians can search the entire database of all reports. This includes all the reports submitted by our sister services.

JDIGS will be the sole reporting system for DOD EOD in the very near future. The faster the system is utilized and learned, the easier it becomes.



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Directed use of JDIGS as the sole reporting source will be incorporated into the new version of MCO 3571.2_.

there was a lot of positive feedback from the course. For more information, please contact the Marine Corps Detachment.

Units that would like to have training set up on JDIGS/AEODPS, Code 20 and the IED Defeat Team have put together a traveling presentation funded by the Technology Division. This is normally based on the number of people being taught. Yuma has already had this training and

The following Marines paid the ultimate sacrifice for their country. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family members of the deceased.



**Gunnery Sergeant Darrell Boatman – 38
Fayetteville, North Carolina
November 4, 2005**



**Staff Sergeant Joel Dameron – 27
Ellabell, Georgia
October 30, 2005**



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**Master Sergeant Brett Angus – 40
St. Paul, Minnesota
November 26, 2005**



**Staff Sergeant Kenneth Pospisil – 35
Andover, Minnesota
December 14, 2005**



**Sergeant Daniel Tsue – 27
Honolulu, Hawaii
November 1, 2005**



**Gunnery Sergeant Michael Clark – 29
Leesburg Lake, Florida
July 20, 2004**



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**Staff Sergeant Jason Lehto – 31
Mount Clemens, Michigan
December 28, 2004**





MK121 MOD 0 MRFDK:

The MK121 Mod 0 MRFDK is undergoing a Product Improvement Project (PIP) at Code 45. The Marine Corps will take the lead role in this PIP, as we are the primary users of the MRFDK. One Corporation has provided a very interesting proposal with the following features:

Scope:

Provide conceptual description for ordnance fuze disassembly machine with the following important and unique features differentiating this version from the existing version:

- 1.1 Electric motion control on all moving linear and rotational axis's allows electronic wire control from operator position.
- 1.2 High torque motors provide specified force required to drill, mill, slot and turning movements.
- 1.3 Multiple voltage input – 48VAC, 120VAC or 240VAC single phase
- 1.4 Machine vision via four cameras mounted on flexible jointed arms allowing pinpoint viewing of machining operation. Each camera features solid-state lighting (high powered LED's) for optimum illumination.
- 1.5 Lightweight aluminum extrusions provide adequate stiffness and high modulus of strength.
- 1.6 Easy assembly – unit sub-assemblies feature quick connects with positive location engagement points.
- 1.7 Off the shelf linear ball bearing rails feature sealing bellows to minimize contamination – extremely high rigidity.
- 1.8 Sub fixtures specific for flexible holding of a wide variety of fuzes. Each sub fixture designed for easy mounting and dis-mounting on the machine proper.

Construction Materials:

(All major components will be USA origin unless otherwise determined during prototyping phase)

Aluminum extrusions used in base and support legs

Hardened steel linear rails support linear axis movements.

Motion control provided by high torque stepping motors

Anti corrosion stainless steel fasteners

Sealed gearing and bearings

Any component designed for easy replacement

Packaging:

Broken down into lightweight reinforced ABS plastic shipping crates designed for two men carry.

Machine vision feature:

Operator can view four or more cameras generated pictures that show current machining or disassembly step while being completely protected. Screens can be setup to gauge or show measurement gridlines allowing operator to correctly judge distance. Views can be recorded digitally with the press of a finger so a record of machining and disassembly can be recorded for presentation to future fuze disassembly personnel.

Electrically controlled axis movements:

Each axis features a custom hand wheel that allows operator to rotate clockwise for forward motion and counter-clockwise to reverse axis direction. Unique force feedback built in to each axis control to alert operator as machining force increases.

Milling, drilling, sawing (slitting) head:

USA manufactured 1/2hp multiple gears with speeds from 34rpm to 540rpm. Head will rotate 180 degrees in two axis's (pitch and yaw)

Main fuze holding vise will be cast aluminum with fast change jaws (rubber, resin, brass and hardened steel jaw sets will be provided) and designed with a sine pivot to allow fuze rotation to vertical 90 degrees.

Another possible replacement is from the original manufacturer of the MK 121 Mod 0 MRFDK. Who is currently designing a MK 121 Mod 1 Prototype for the Techdiv. It is important for our community to keep the



main object of this PIP in our sights, “to modernize the equipment”. The PIP process will be a holistic approach covering all known problems with the Mk 121 Mod 0 and adding several additional features. In a nutshell, these upgrades include reducing the weight and size of the system, updating the controls and adding a remote viewing capability.



COMBINED TEAMS MCAS CHERRY POINT EOD

It's situation normal in the world of Station EOD as we continue to support the air station and the surrounding eighteen counties. Hurricane Ophelia stirred up a lot of UXO in the area, which means more trips to the outer banks. The word around the shop lately has been duty, duty, and more duty. SSgt Canaday joined the fight in April and assumed the role of NCOIC, as GySgt Carter said farewell to the Marine Corps and set forth upon retirement in July. Sgt Cortes (SSgt selectee) has moved over from MWSS-274 and has been busy as the Supply NCO ever since. CWO-3 Whitlock has been going to war over the EOD Range site approval and is finally making headway with the powers-that-be. Sgt Foster is still here and still dirty, promoted to SSgt on 1

October...CONGRATS! Station has performed numerous off-station responses in support of the local communities from ordnance recovery, IED response, and technical training. The air show was successful (glad it's over!). With a compliment of 1/3 it has been a manpower nightmare but mission accomplishment has always been the primary concern. We are anxiously awaiting the arrival of GySgt Dennis, just returned from deployment in October. The Wing teams are recently back

from another glorious deployment to Iraq and are stepping up and providing valuable knowledge and duty relief to the Station team.

Well, the deployment is finally over and now begins the scramble to find enough bodies to send out in the next phase leaving in Feb 06. Many lessons were learned during OIF 3 and lots of experience gained as a result of our efforts. CWO-3 Garfield proved once again that he is something more than mortal by walking away from a roadside device containing a South African 155mm projectile that detonated a mere 5 feet away from him. Besides the perforated eardrums, a brief knee surgery and minor cuts and scrapes, he is otherwise and remarkably unscathed. CWO-2 Whitlock is due back from float any day now where we are sure he will have matching stories of miraculous near misses and heroic endeavors as he begins his march into retirement. MSgt Barber and GySgt Zahn are now among those who call themselves former Marines and seeking gainful employment in the civilian sector. They will be missed. Promotions and selections while in Iraq include MSgt White, SSgt's Donahue and Williams, as well as SSgt Donald's selection to GySgt. Congrats to all. Workups for the next Iraq deployment are beginning immediately with planned trips to Yuma and Huntsville and bodies are in short supply. Outgoing techs include SSgt's Donahue and Williams going to Oki, SSgt Donald heading to HI, and MSgt White heading North to CBIRF. Incoming techs are...not coming according to the monitor. So if you have a burning desire to get your feet sandy and get into the fight, drop us a line and we will be sure to help you get where you need to be.

MCAS MIRAMAR & MWSS 373 EOD

Greetings from sunny San Diego! The last 6 months has been hectic for the Station Miramar Team due to a complete turnover of 4 of the 5 Marines assigned to the team. Lack of turnover and supporting documentation resulted in lots of confusion but as always, Marines continue on with the mission. Sgt Chir arrived in April as MSgt McClung prepared to retire to a better world. Capt Miller packed up his family and PCS'd in early May to MCB Quantico. June saw the arrival of WO Schmidt from MWSS 172, Okinawa and SSgt Hurban from 1st Platoon. July saw SSgt Claus



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leaving us to go on terminal leave in advance of his retirement in September.

Joint training with MWSS 373 EOD was conducted in early July with our response trailer to familiarize the new team with its contents in support of running a joint duty again that lead to some valuable lessons being learned by all. Some were humorous and some were not. Lesson #1, make sure you anchor your Dearmer because if you don't, it will surely fly over the ravine and be lost forever at the least! Lesson #2: 25' of fiber optic cable wrapped in the tracks of the robot 300' down range results in a loss of signal causing a 700-pound roadblock in front of a door. Compound this problem by the RF unit and normal robot controller not being a standard load out in the response trailer, and instead, being located in a box on a shelf 5 mile away because you are running the robot on the briefcase monitor thinking you will never have a need for either of the other items. Immediate re-evaluation of the load out of the response trailer was undertaken which identified other discrepancies.

Bottom line; know what is in your load out. When a new tool comes in, don't keep it wrapped in plastic and the first time you or your team needs to use it, it is on a real call and you don't know how to operate it! If you have items that have a limited shelf life which is affected by an expiration date, have a procedure in place to check and rotate the stock so that when you go to use it, it did not expire 2-years prior and is no longer of any use. Finally, train realistically and frequently for the missions you will be tasked to support because with all the equipment at your disposal, those skills utilized to operate that equipment is perishable.

On the positive side, August saw the promotion of WO Schmidt to CWO2. Soon there after, Sgt Chir with the help of CWO2 Middleton and GySgt Alexander of 373,

destroyed a damaged under seat rocket motor out on the EOD Range. To make it a truly wonderful day, the fire department was on scene as always to protect against wildfires and sat idly by as EOD tried to contain a small fire that developed just past where they had wet down the range with hoses prior to the detonation. When it was evident that the fire could not be contained by EOD, the fire department with two brush trucks on site now watching from above, pulled back EOD and called in air assets (3 helicopters and 2 tanker planes) to fight the fire along with assistance from fire departments from all over the county. Needless to say we had several news helicopters covering the story and it was the talk of the base and would soon make the Marine Corps Times.

All in all CWO Schmidt had a wonderful time explaining to the G-3 how a fire could have started with fire trucks on site. Bottom line... flattening 4 tires on one EOD response truck... \$1,000, burning 800ft of fire hose... \$3,000, burning 350 acres of protected grasslands containing endangered species in East Miramar... \$20,000, reimbursing ground and air assets for fuel in support of fire suppression efforts... \$140,000 and newly promoted CWO Schmidt explaining to the G-3 why it got so big... Priceless!

August also saw the arrival of SSgt Hermann from 1st Platoon and the departure of GySgt Lathrop to the Staff Academy to attend the Advanced Course. Sgt Chir has departed to Yuma to gain some knowledge in range sweeps and with any luck, will not burn what little there is in the deserts of the Chocolate Mountains or break any of their equipment.

The main focus of effort for the future is the upcoming Air Show in October. Other than that, if you're in the area let us know and we will put you on the duty roster...





MCAGTF EOD TEAM

Greetings, from the “high desert paradise”, its been a really busy summer here with lots of different projects, a new building and lots of personnel changes.

SSgt Dennis Williams, SSgt Carnevale, & MGySgt Sharp all departed MCAGCC in about a 3 month span. SSgt David is headed to 3rd. Good luck, Gents.

-Major Arthur D. Martin retired 10 June. Good luck down at the schoolhouse, Sir.

-SSgt's Oldham, David and CWO 2 Morlang went to Iraq as part of the ICE system MTT team in June and returned this month.

-We welcomed Capt. Glass aboard in June. He's got so many irons in the fire now he doesn't know if he's coming or going.

-We picked up Sgt Weis from 3rd and Sgt Cardenas from the schoolhouse. Sgt Matea is inbound for October (whenever he's done messing around at jump school).

-Our new building is in its final stages...we could have the keys by week's end (not holding my breath and definitely not looking forward to moving the museum pieces)

-A breaching facility is in the works for Range 105, as well an IED static display line at Camp Wilson.

-Last month we had about 14 phoned in bomb threats at the main PX in the span of about 3 weeks. Nothing was ever found and PMO finally arrested the perpetrators (caller ID is a wonderful thing).

If you're ever in the area, stop by and spread the latest gossip. The coffee is hot and the soda mess always is open!

MCB CAMP LEJEUNE EOD

1. Greetings from the MCB Camp Lejeune Team, where there has been a lot of moving and shaking going on since the last newsletter. There has been quite a turnover here with the arrivals of: Capt Romine, GySgt Lamer, SSgt Pickartz, and Sgt Walker. It only took a short time to realize who was expendable, and with that we sent GySgt Lamer to Okinawa, where he is helping to stand up the new Base Team. Additionally, Capt Glass has departed our ranks and is now leading the MCAGCC 29 Palms Team.

2. Congratulations are in order for GySgt McGurty, SSgt Pickartz, and Sgt Walker all of whom were selected for promotions to their next higher ranks respectively. Kudos to Sgt Walker also is in order for his recent reenlistment.

3. For those who have not heard, GySgt McGurty's surgery was a success. After weeks of “grueling” recovery time (lying around the house) he will be returning to work just in time to be promoted to MSgt. We wish him a continued speedy recovery.

4. History was made, or rather recovered, with the finding of a civil war era cannonball along the Carolina coast. Marines from the Camp Lejeune Team are in the process of returning the cannonball to it's once havoc wreaking condition. Upon proper inerting and restoration of the ball, it will be returned to the State's Parks Department for display at Hammock's Beach State Park.

5. In keeping with the cannonball theme, GySgt McGurty traveled to Puerto Rico to evaluate several cannonballs on display at an historic colonial period fort. The cannonballs were on display until it was determined that they may not be inert. Plans are in order for a future operation to provide support similar to that provided to the Hammock's Beach State Park rangers.

6. MCB Camp Lejeune Team continues to support the base with various tasks including range sweeps, target insertions, burning operations, as well as the continued



support provided to the eight counties surrounding Camp Lejeune.

MWSS 172 EOD TEAM

Greetings from the exotic land of delicious yakisoba and teppanyaki. Due to a lack of patronage and employees, Club Kadena has been temporarily closed.

Our hearts and prayers go out to the family members and victims residing in the Gulf States who have endured/suffered through those severe storms. We sincerely hope for a speedy recovery.

Congratulations are in order to the EOD techs that were selected and/or promoted to include our very own: SSgt Jerez (GySgt) and Sgt ValentineDavis (SSgt). To the EOD Marines who are eligible for the upcoming promotion boards...Good Luck!

The spring of 2005 has brought a change to the head shed. Outbound: WO Schmidt departed for MCAS, Miramar in April; and in June, MSgt Mann and his family departed for 2nd EOD Platoon, North Carolina. They will be truly missed and we wish them much success at their next commands. We also bid farewell to our OJT's: Sgt Bebout and Sgt Sherwood...Good luck! Inbound: In March, MSgt "Dr Phil" Dailey and his family arrived from just up the road, 3rd Platoon; and In July, CWO Johnson and his family arrived from CSSG-3, Hawaii. Welcome Aboard!!! By the way you do not need to worry about a duty roster since you are on it each and everyday.

Speaking of Gunner Johnson, one of his pet peeves, besides depleting Okinawa of yakisoba, is the posting of the "word of the day"...go figure. Today's word: adventitious (adj)--out of place or not essentially inherent...brought to you by reference.com.

Recently, we have received great news concerning Sgt Bobby Moon's condition. As everyone might be aware, Sgt Moon was injured in OIF. Since that time he has been transferred to his home of residence in Tennessee. His prognosis is very optimistic and his recovery thus far has been remarkable. We have been in constant contact with Sgt Moon and we are pleased to announce that he is in very good spirits.

The materials are finally in to build our 10 by 20 room. Supposedly, the Air Force will begin construction sometime in late October or early November. This is very good news for Top, who reminds us of a receptionist when he sits at his desk. For those of you whom are unaware, Top's desk is located directly in front of the main entrance to our shop. Upon completion of the annex, the SNCOIC will be moved to an adjoining room so that he will have his own office space.

The MCBJ EOD Team has officially stood up; along with 3rd Platoon, we continue to provide island wide support until the Base team is completely off and running. Capt Cacioppo, 3rd EOD Platoon has the lead with assisting the Base team.

Operations are practically at a standstill for us...we only have 3 techs on duty. Therefore we are making use of this time to prepare for the upcoming FAI in Jan'06. SSgt Cheatum has done a superb job operating as a one-man team by running the commodity sections and accomplishing the admin tasks...by the way has anyone seen the SSGT...today is Field Day! We are giving the hardworking SSgt a break and we are sending him to the Dynamic Entry course in Oct. We still continue to support real world missions with SSgt Jerez supporting OIF 4.06.1 and Sgt ValentineDavis supporting OIF 4.06.2. We are hoping that replacements will be here soon...Hint! Hint!...as our operational tempo is expected to increase during the 2nd half of FY'07.

Tech Tip of the Day: Did you forget your pulleys or the HAL Kit and you need to remotely remove a MJU-8 from a bucket. The handle of a full 5- gallon water can (lain flat/ braced with 3 sandbags) and 550-chord will do the trick.



MSgt Dailey has decided to call it quits; he is awaiting word from CMC. If approved, MSgt will be retiring sometime in June 2006. Of course we will not let Top and his family leave without a good ole retirement party...we'll be sure to send out the invites.

Finally, to the EOD teams that are forward deployed to OIF and OEF...keep your head down and be safe...Semper Fi! Well, that's all folks, if you are in the area; drop in for a cup of Kona coffee and a mouthful of war stories. P.S. Speed bump is doing well and she sends her luv...Ruff! Ruff!

A. V. JOHNSON

MWSS 172 Incident Report

Incident Summary:

Day 1 (1820 Oki time)

Item was reported to PMO on 11 Dec 2005 by Japanese contract worker. The bomb was uncovered during digging operations in lieu of a construction project at Camp Kinser Housing area. MWSS 172 EOD Officer was contacted by PMO Foster and 9th ESB EOD at approximately 1645. Arrived on scene and was met by the On-scene Commander, Major Ferguson and MSgt Dailey (MWSS 172 EOD). PMO Incident Commander, Lt Vreeland, had already coordinated evacuation of all residents and he requested emergency support from the Fire Department and medical.

Item was identified as a WW II era ordnance, 500 lb old style bomb with tail fuse. EOD also identified other key components that would later assist in the proper identification of the tail fuse too include the arming wire and fragments from the old style box-style fins. Only the base plate and fuse of the bomb was exposed. Much of the bomb remained embedded in the surface. Only viable course of action was to

begin excavation of the item on the following day beginning at 0800. This would allow sufficient time for the residents to leave the area and coordination of heavy Equipment support.

MWSS 172 and MCBJ EOD technicians returned to base to conduct research on fuze type and were successful in positively identifying the fuse through the use of pictures, measurements and TM publications. RSP was determined and briefed the next day.

Day 2 (0830)

Excavation was a collective effort between all the Okinawa EOD teams. First, EOD technicians manually removed the fuze by hand. Fuze type was already identified as an Impact Inertia type, construction workers had sheered off the arming vanes, and deemed safe for manual removal. EOD then gain access to the nose and determined the bomb was not armed with a nose fuse. The nose was plugged with a hexagon plug. At that point the bomb was safe for removal. Heavy Equipment support facilitated removal and the bomb was transported to Camp Scwhab for disposal. Duration of excavation was 8 hours.

9th ESB coordinated Class V(W) and scheduling the range. Special thanks to Capt Cacioppo/MGySgt Sharp for providing additional EOD techs to assist with the excavation.

EOD Personnel on site:

CWO2 Johnson	(MWSS 172 EOD Officer)
MSgt Dailey	(MWSS 172 EOD SNCOIC)
SSgt Cheatum	(MWSS 172 EOD)
MGySgt Mecca	(MCBButler EOD SNCOIC)
Sgt Schmalsteig	(9 th ESB EOD)
Sgt Kilpatrick	(9 th ESB EOD)





MCAS IWAKUNI & MWSS-171



The Team has maintained the usual blistering operational pace since the last entry. We have been sending numerous IA's to OIF (like everyone else) and also maintaining our normal op tempo in support of 1st MAW deployments in the Pacific Rim. We have deployed techs to Iraq, Thailand, Korea, Australia, Guam, Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia during the last year and will do so again this coming year. The Station Team recently took possession of their new building, and they were gracious enough to let us move in with them. They planned the move when we were all "supposed" to be here, but an unscheduled op came up and we were "forced" to support it. In the end, the 171 Team has a nice new home and the Station team had to move all of our stuff for us. They did a great job and our damage claim was relatively low. If anyone is looking for a decent duty station with great travel opportunities and high COLA, just let us know. Stay safe.





AWARDS FROM AROUND THE FLEET - JOB WELL DONE TO THE FOLLOWING MARINES:



MSgt Parrish – Bronze Star



GySgt Luther – Bronze Star



GySgt (MSgt/WO Select) Soto – Bronze Star



SSgt Navarette – Silver Star